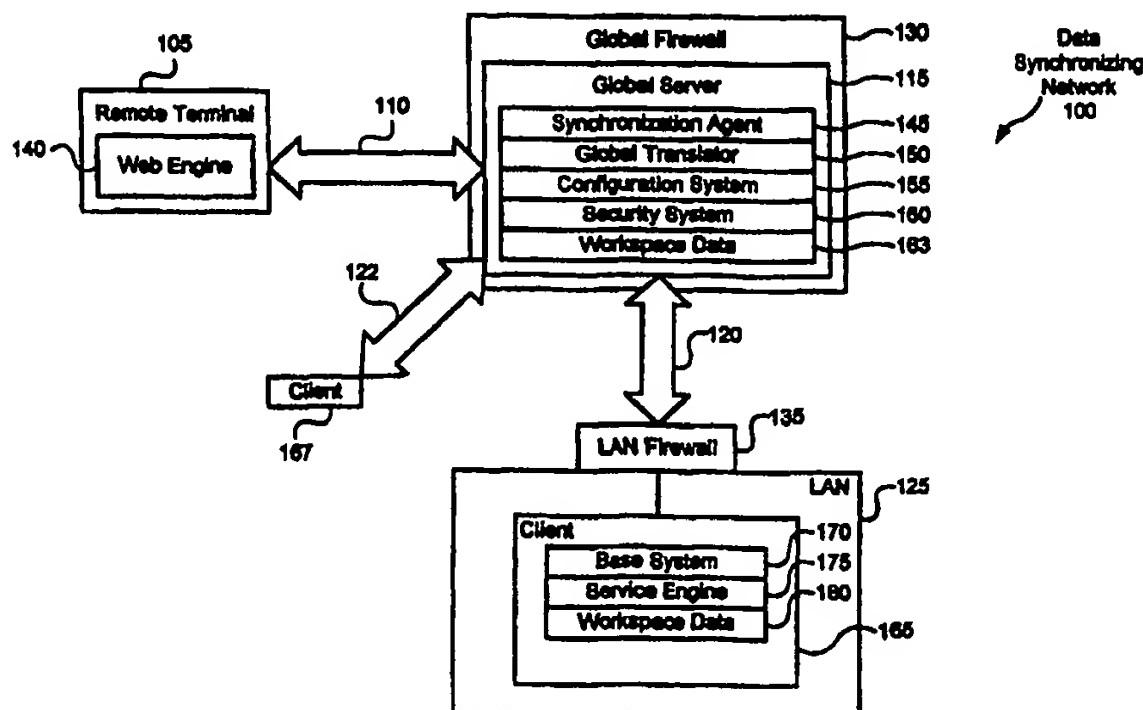




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(71) Applicant:	VISTO CORPORATION [US/US]; 1937 Landings Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043 (US).	Published	<i>With international search report.</i>
(72) Inventors:	MENDEZ, Daniel, J.; 275 Gloria Circle, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (US). RIGGINS, Mark, D.; 5818 Moraga Avenue, San Jose, CA 95123 (US). WAGLE, Prasad; 2831 Pruneridge Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95051 (US). BUI, Hong, Q.; 10250 Parkwood Drive #4, Cupertino, CA 95014 (US). NG, Mason; 217 Ada Avenue #11, Mountain View, CA 94043 (US). QUINLAN, Sean, Michael; 155 Haight Street #211, San Francisco, CA 94102 (US). YING, Christine, C.; 1204 Moonsail Lane, Foster City, CA 94404 (US). ZULEEG, Christopher, R.; 5524 Blossom Vista Avenue, San Jose, CA 94124 (US). COWAN, David, J.; 3000 Sand Hill Road #3-225, Menlo Park, CA 94043 (US). APTEKAR-STROBER, Joanna, A.; 3000 Sand Hill Road #3-225, Menlo Park, CA 94043 (US). BAILES, R., Stanley; 4829 Bela Drive, San Jose, CA 95129 (US).	(88) Date of publication of the international search report:	8 April 1999 (08.04.99)

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GLOBALLY AND SECURELY ACCESSING UNIFIED INFORMATION IN A COMPUTER NETWORK



(57) Abstract

A client (165) stores a first set of workspace data (180), and is coupled via a computer network (120) to a global server (115). The client (165) may be configured to synchronize portions of the first set of workspace data (180) with the global server (115), which stores independently modifiable copies (163) of the portions. The global server (115) may also store workspace data (163) which is not downloaded from the client (165), and thus stores a second set of workspace data (163). The global server (115) may be configured to identify and authenticate a user seeking global server access from a remote terminal (105), and is configured to provide access to the first set (180) or to the second set (163). Further, services (615) may be stored anywhere in the computer network (100). The global server (115) may be configured to provide the user with access to the services (615). The system (100) may further include a synchronization-start module (820) at the client site (165) (which may be protected by a firewall (135)) that initiates interconnection and synchronization with the global server (115) when predetermined criteria have been satisfied.